

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine
Washington, D. C.

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B. E. P. Q.--412

(On December 15, 1936 this circular will supersede all previous circulars of this series on the specific subject of the entry of foreign Narcissus bulbs.)

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE IMPORTERS REGARDING
THE ENTRY OF FOREIGN NARCISSUS BULBS ON AND
AFTER DECEMBER 15, 1936

Importations of Narcissus bulbs on and after December 15, 1936, may be made upon compliance with the requirements of Nursery Stock, Plant, and Seed Quarantine No. 37, under permit issued in accordance with the provisions of regulation 3 of that quarantine.

In an announcement by the Department dated August 1, 1936, it was stated that external examination of Narcissus bulbs cannot be relied upon to determine their freedom from infestation by the bulb eelworm, Anguillulina dipsaci. In order to prevent the distribution within the United States of foreign Narcissus bulbs infested with the bulb eelworm and at the same time to provide for unlimited entry as to number and variety, it was further announced that under the provisions of regulation 9 of Nursery Stock, Plant, and Seed Quarantine No. 37, plant quarantine inspectors will require all imported Narcissus bulbs to be given the latest approved treatment as a condition of entry.

Those in interest are informed that the plant quarantine inspector will construe the term "latest approved treatment" to consist of soaking the bulbs in water at a temperature of 70 to 80 degrees F., preferably 75 degrees, for a period of two hours after which the bulbs are to be held in hot water until all the bulbs have reached a temperature of 110 to 111 degrees F., throughout. The bulbs are then to be held in hot water at a temperature of not less than 110 degrees F., for a period of four hours. As a precautionary measure to check the subsequent dissemination of diseases such as basal rot, a pint of formalin may be added for each 35 gallons of water, but the addition of the disinfectant is optional with the importer.

Treatment may be given at the port of first arrival or at any point designated in the permit, but the permittee will be



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required to have available at such place of treatment the services of a treating plant capable of treating the importation according to the method to be prescribed by the inspector, which is indicated above. The plant concerned may be owned, or contracted for, by the permittee. Applicants for permits to import Narcissus bulbs are asked to state, when submitting the application for permit, the point and premises at which they propose to have the bulbs treated, naming the owner of the plant.

Furthermore, before an inspector will authorize the release of imported bulbs to such plant for treatment, the owner or operator of the treating plant will be asked to certify to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine at Washington, D. C., that the plant is in good working order and will be available for use in treating the importation.

Shipments not to be treated at or in the vicinity of the port of first arrival may be released for movement in bond to the customs port nearest the premises at which the treatment is to be given. Shipments released from a port for delivery to a treating plant are to be held intact until the permittee has been instructed by a representative of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine to proceed with the treatment.

All charges incident to such hot-water treatment are to be met by the importer or owner, but there will be no charges for the services of a plant quarantine inspector to supervise the treatment.

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